

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 02964 230944Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-01
NSC-05 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /067 W
-----127873 231542Z /53
R 230902Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5516
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: JA, SHUM, ELAB
SUBJ: GOJ EFFORTS TO GAIN DIET RATIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COVENANTS

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS FONOFF UN BUREAU DIRGEN OKAWA NOTED THAT GOJ WAS MAKING MAJOR EFFORT TO GAIN DIET RATIFICATION OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANTS DURING CURRENT SPRING LEGISLATIVE SESSION. IN PAST WEEKS, OKAWA HAD BEEN PERSONALLY MEETING WITH VARIOUS LDP DIET MEMBERS TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR INTRODUCTION AND PASSAGE OF COVENANTS. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, SOME CONCERN AMONG ELEMENTS OF LDP THAT LANGUAGE IN ARTICLE 8 OF COVENANT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS REFERRING TO FREEDOM OF ACTIVITY OF UNIONS MIGHT SOMEHOW PREJUDICE GOJ'S POSITION DENYING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RIGHT TO STRIKE AND FIREMEN THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE. THERE WAS POSSIBILITY THAT TO REMOVE THIS STUMBLING BLOCK, GOJ WOULD MAKE SOME FORM OF RESERVATION ON THIS ISSUE AT TIME OF RATIFICATION. NOTING THAT US ACTIONS WOULD HAVE MAJOR EFFECT ON JAPANESE ATTITUDES, OKAWA REQUESTED ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON CURRENT PROGRESS TOWARDS US RATIFICATION, INCLUDING POSSIBLE RESERVATIONS.

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2. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, FONOFF UN POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIVDIR MAKOTO WATANABE TENDED TO CONFIRM SUGGESTION HEARD ELSEWHERE THAT GOJ'S SPECIAL LOBBYING EFFORTS AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME WERE IN PART BASED ON DESIRE TO ACHIEVE RATIFICATION IN TIME FOR PM FUKUDA'S EXPECTED SUMMIT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AS DEMONSTRATION OF JAPANESE SINCERITY AND COMMITMENT IN FIELD OF HUMAN

RIGHTS.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON PROGRESS
OF US RATIFICATION TO PASS TO FONOFF.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO02964
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780084-0355
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780220/aaaaaqia.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: af2d08d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3498359
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOJ EFFORTS TO GAIN DIET RATIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANTS
TAGS: SHUM, ELAB, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/af2d08d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014